

# Muslim Studies

Newsletter of the MSU Muslim Studies Program

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UNIVERSITY

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## Save the Dates

- ◆ **April 1: Muslim Studies Program Student Research Showcase**
- ◆ **April 8-9: The Fourteenth Annual Muslim Studies Program Conference (Theme: “Global Islamophobia and the News Media, Entertainment Media, and Social Media”)**
- ◆ **See page 2 for a partial list of our spring events.**

## Message from the Director



This spring, the Muslim Studies Program is preparing a plethora of virtual events. These include a panel on “Macron and Islam” with Mayanthi Fernando (UC-Santa Cruz), Ebrahim Moosa (Notre Dame), and Chantal Tetreault (MSU) (Jan. 18); a lecture on “Muslim Women Jurists” by Rosemary Admiral (UT-Dallas) (Jan. 25); a presentation on “Arabia before Islam” by Ahmad Al-Jallad (Ohio State) (Feb. 4); an examination by Sadam Issa (MSU) of the representations of ISIS in Arabic political cartoons (Feb. 12); and a lecture by Sean Anthony (Ohio State) on “The Historical Muhammad” (Feb. 25).

Book lovers won’t want to miss our *Muslim Journeys* Book Club sessions. The first session will feature the acclaimed author

Laury Silvers, who will present her popular book *The Lover: A Sufi Mystery* (Feb. 18). In the second session, we will discuss Malaka Gharib’s graphic novel *I Was Their American Dream* (March 3; speaker TBA). In the third and final session, Dustin Byrd (Olivet and MSU) will examine Leslie Hazelton’s book *The First Muslim: The Story of Muhammad* (March 23).

Finally, in the month of April, just before the start of Ramadan, we will have two major events. We will have our third annual student research showcase featuring both undergraduate and graduate students (April 1; submission deadline: March 15). And our final event will be our fourteenth annual conference, the theme of which is “Global Islamophobia and the News Media, Social Media, and Entertainment Media” (April 8-9). The conference theme was proposed by Nazita Lajevardi (MSU).

I hope you will join us for these virtual events!

Mohammad Hassan Khalil

## Faculty Spotlight: Parisa Ghaderi

**Parisa Ghaderi** is a visual artist, curator, educator, and filmmaker. She earned her BA in Visual Communications from the Art and Architecture University, Tehran, Iran, and her MFA in Art and Design from the University of Michigan. Her work responds to her experiences of living in Iran and the US, which have revealed an in-between state about distance. Her most recent project is “The Impossible Room,” a performance project about migration, separation, love, longing, and loss among those separated by borders. She is currently an Assistant Professor of Graphic Design at the Department of Art, Art History, and Design at Michigan State University.



 *Spring Calendar of (Virtual) Events \** 

Register for all virtual events at <https://muslimstudies.isp.msu.edu/about/reg-links>

Jan. 18, 7pm: “Macron and Islam” panel featuring Mayanthi Fernando (UC-Santa Cruz), Ebrahim Moosa (Notre Dame), and Chantal Tetreault (MSU)

Jan. 25, 7pm: Rosemary Admiral (UT-Dallas), “Muslim Women Jurists”

Feb. 4, 7pm: Ahmad Al-Jallad (Ohio State), “Arabia before Islam”

Feb. 12, 4pm: Sadam Issa (MSU), “Picturing Atrocity: Visual Representations of ISIS in Arabic Political Cartoons”

Feb. 18, 7pm: *Muslim Journeys Book Club—The Lover: A Sufi Mystery* by Laury Silvers, led by Dr. Silvers herself

Feb. 25, 7pm: Sean Anthony (Ohio State), “The Historical Muhammad”

March 3, time TBA: *Muslim Journeys Book Club—I Was Their American Dream: A Graphic Memoir* by Malaka Gharib (details TBA)

March 23, 7pm: *Muslim Journeys Book Club—The First Muslim: The Story of Muhammad* by Leslie Hazelton, led by Dustin Byrd (Olivet and MSU)

April 1, 6:30pm: 3rd Annual Muslim Studies Program Student Research Showcase (submission deadline: March 15)

Cosponsored Event: 13th Annual Muslim Mental Health Conference (April 2-3)

April 8-9: 14th Annual MSP Conference (Theme: “Global Islamophobia and the News Media, Social Media, and Entertainment Media”)

\* This is a partial list of our spring events. Sign up for the biweekly e-newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/ci08p1>.

# Snapshots of the Fall



**"Islam, Environmental Science, and Conservation" Conference**

**Nazita Lajevardi on American Islamophobia**

**Zahra Ayubi on Gendered Morality and Islamic Ethics**



**Bedross Der Matossian on Armenians of Palestine/Israel**



**Muslim Journeys on Zoom**

**Attitudes**

- **Attitudes:** Attitudes are one of the pivotal concepts in sociopsychological studies and are defined as "a mental and neural state of readiness, organized through experience, exerting a directive or dynamic influence upon the individual's response to all objects and situations with which it is related" (Allport, 1935: 810)
- **Language Attitudes:** "Attitudes and motivations feature not only in our perceptions, evaluations and attributions as we encounter such adjustments and attunements; they are also components of our own communicative competence that underpin, consciously or unconsciously, our moment-to-moment deployment of linguistic, non-verbal and discursive resources to achieve our communicative goals" (Garrett, 2010, p. 120).



**Brahim Chakrani on Language Accommodation in Interdialectal Arabic Encounters**



**Kyle Evered on Turkish nationalism and America's "War on Drugs"**

## MUSLIM STUDIES PROGRAM HISTORY AND MISSION



Established at MSU in 2006 and housed in International Studies and Programs, the Muslim Studies Program coordinates research, teaching, and outreach about Muslims and Muslim-majority societies and states. Additionally, it organizes lectures, workshops, and conferences on a wide range of topics that reflect the rich diversity of Muslims and Muslim communities around the world. The MSP is unique in the sense that instead of a regional focus, it has a global view of Muslims and Muslim-majority societies and states. It is an interdepartmental and interdisciplinary center whose faculty has appointments in various disciplines at MSU.



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Sign up for the biweekly e-newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/ci08p1>

### Muslim Studies Minor for Undergraduate Students

The Minor in Muslim Studies, administered by James Madison College, is available as an elective to students who are enrolled in bachelor's degree programs at Michigan State University. The minor provides students with the opportunity for sustained study of Muslim societies and Islam in a range of disciplines and topics.

With the approval of the department that administers the student's degree program, courses that are

used to satisfy the requirements of the minor may also be used to satisfy the requirements for the bachelor's degree.

The student's program of study must be approved by the Muslim Studies Minor Coordinator, Professor Waseem El-Rayes ([elrayes@msu.edu](mailto:elrayes@msu.edu)) prior to enrollment in any course. For more information, please visit:

[muslimstudies.isp.msu.edu/students/undergrad-specialization](http://muslimstudies.isp.msu.edu/students/undergrad-specialization)

If you would like to support the MSU Muslim Studies Program through a financial contribution, please visit <http://www.giveto.msu.edu/give.html>, or send a check to: University Development, Michigan State University, 300 Spartan Way, East Lansing, MI 48824-1005. Please make checks payable to "Michigan State University," with Muslim Studies on the memo line of your check. Thank you for considering a gift.